

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1, 4, 7 to 9 and 11 are amended as set forth hereinafter.

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A device for decanting a liquid including fuel and lubricant into a vessel, the device comprising:

a tube-shaped support unit defining a flow channel and
5 having a free end;
a valve plate arranged at said free end and being movable between a first position wherein said flow channel is blocked and a second position wherein said flow channel is cleared to discharge said liquid into said vessel;

10 said tube-shaped support unit including an outer sleeve and an inner sleeve telescopically mounted in said outer sleeve so as to permit said outer and inner sleeves to move relative to each other;

15 resilient biasing means for providing a biasing force to resiliently bias said plate into said first position;

said valve plate defining a peripheral edge and including first and second tie rods arranged on said valve plate adjacent said peripheral edge and said tie rods extending into the

interior of said support unit; and,

20 means for coupling said first and second tie rods to the relative movement of said inner and outer sleeves so as to permit said valve plate to be moved from said first position to said second position against said biasing force;

one of said first tie rods having a radial opening formed
25 therein in the region of said valve plate; and,

said device further including a venting line running along
the interior of said support unit and connected to said radial
opening.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein said first and second tie rods lie diametrically opposite each other.

3. (Original) The device of claim 2, said coupling means being configured to couple said first and second tie rods to said inner sleeve so as to permit said inner sleeve to apply a force thereto.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The device of claim 3, A device for decanting a liquid including fuel and lubricant into a vessel, the device comprising:~~

5 ~~a tube-shaped support unit defining a flow channel and having a free end;~~

~~a valve plate arranged at said free end and being movable between a first position wherein said flow channel is blocked and a second position wherein said flow channel is cleared to discharge said liquid into said vessel;~~

10 said tube-shaped support unit including an outer sleeve and
an inner sleeve telescopically mounted in said outer sleeve so as
to permit said outer and inner sleeves to move relative to each
other;

15 resilient biasing means for providing a biasing force to
resiliently bias said plate into said first position;

said valve plate defining a peripheral edge and including
first and second tie rods arranged on said valve plate adjacent
said peripheral edge and said tie rods extending into the
interior of said support unit;

20 means for coupling said first and second tie rods to the
relative movement of said inner and outer sleeves so as to permit
said valve plate to be moved from said first position to said
second position against said biasing force;

25 wherein said first and second tie rods lie diametrically
opposite each other;

said coupling means being configured to couple said first
and second tie rods to said inner sleeve so as to permit said
inner sleeve to apply a force thereto; and,

30 said first and second tie rods being configured so as to be
elastically expandable; and, said coupling means including: an
undercut formed in said inner sleeve; and, first and second
latching elements formed on the ends of said first and second tie
rods, respectively, for latching into said undercut.

5. (Original) The device of claim 4, wherein said tie rods and
said valve plate are formed as a single component.

6. (Original) The device of claim 5, wherein one of said first tie rods has a radial opening formed therein in the region of said valve plate; and, said device further comprises a venting line running along the interior of said support unit and
5 connected to said radial opening.

7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein said outer sleeve and said inner sleeve conjointly define an annular space; and, said resilient biasing means being is a helical spring accommodated in said annular space.

8. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 7, wherein said inner sleeve has a radial shoulder formed thereon for axially delimiting said annular space at one axial end thereof and said outer sleeve being is formed to have a constrictive portion at
5 the end thereof facing toward said free end of said support unit so as to delimit said annular space at the other axial end thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 8, wherein said radial shoulder has a diameter which corresponds essentially to the diameter of said annular space and said constricted portion having has a diameter corresponding essentially to the diameter
5 of said inner sleeve.

10. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein said device further comprises means for movably guiding said inner sleeve on the inner side of said outer sleeve so as to facilitate said

relative movement and to prevent said outer sleeve and said inner
5 sleeve from rotating relative to each other.

11. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 8, wherein said
device further comprises a rotatable sleeve guided on said outer
sleeve and having at least one radial latch for engaging over
said radial shoulder of said inner sleeve; and, said radial latch
5 and said radial shoulder conjointly defining define a bayonet
connection.

12. (Original) The device of claim 11, wherein said device
further comprises a breakthrough for assembly in said radial
shoulder for said radial latch.